Update on Troop E Restructuring

April 23, 2018

Decision to Abolish Troop E

- On April 2, 2018 Governor Baker and State Police Police Superintendent Col. Kerry Gilpin announced a series of reforms to improve the delivery and administration of State Police functions, including those relative to the Massachusetts Turnpike and other MassDOT tolled facilities

- State Police Troop E had been assigned to patrol MassDOT tolled facilities including the Turnpike and Metropolitan Highway System tunnels and MassDOT has had an agreement with the State Police since 2010 laying out how the costs associated with Troop E would be covered

- A State Police internal audit of the Accident Injury Reduction Effort, known as AIRE patrols, taken by the officers within Troop E uncovered evidence troopers were assigned shifts and billed for overtime hours, but some did not actually appear for the patrols; 9 of 19 State Police members who were to go through hearings in connection with the investigation retired before the hearings and others were suspended without pay

- Troop E, the troop assigned to MassDOT, is being abolished and its functions absorbed into other Troops

Background: Troop E Agreement

- M.G.L. c. 6C, § 3, authorizes MassDOT to enter into agreements and transactions with federal, state and municipal agencies and other public institutions and entities on behalf of MassDOT and further authorizes MassDOT, among other things to own, use, police, administer, control and operate the state highway system, the metropolitan highway system and the turnpike, or any part thereof

- M.G.L. c. 22C, § 29 authorizes and directs the Colonel of the State Police to enter into an agreement with MassDOT for police services and that such agreement fix the legal and fiscal responsibilities pertaining to the operation and maintenance of police services provided by the State Police to MassDOT and for the payment of police services by MassDOT

- MassDOT and State Police entered into an agreement in 2010. The agreement, among other things, states that MassDOT shall provide each Troop E member a suitable police motor vehicle, comparable to those police motor vehicles provided to other members of the State Police, and shall maintain and provide fuel, equipment and suitable communications equipment for such motor vehicles at MassDOT's expense

Initial Agreement on Vehicles and Equipment

- As an initial step in effectuating the timely implementation of the reforms, MassDOT and State Police have executed an agreement for the transfer of the 258 vehicles to State Police; in accordance with statute, fiscal responsibility will be addressed in a forthcoming agreement

- State Police shall be responsible for the care and control of the 258 vehicles including, but not limited to the obligation to replace, repair, maintain, insure, register, and inspect the vehicles

- State Police agrees that the vehicles shall be used for providing the current level of State Police services and protection for MassDOT properties and facilities

- MassDOT will also transfer to State Police, the equipment – communication equipment, uniforms, weapons, etc. – currently used by Troop E. State Police shall be fully responsible for the care and control of the equipment including, but not limited to the obligation to replace, repair, and maintain the equipment

Forthcoming Agreement on Service Levels and Legal and Fiscal Responsibilities

- MassDOT and State Police are preparing an MOU to more fully set forth the service level obligations and the legal, and fiscal responsibilities pertaining to the police services provided to MassDOT; the goal is to have such a document by the end of the 30 day period initiated by Governor Baker's April 2 announcement

- The MOU will require State Police protection and services for Interstate Route 90, Callahan, Sumner, CANA and Ted Williams Tunnels, Metropolitan Highway System and all related access roadways and ramps, the Maurice J. Tobin Memorial Bridge and its related access roadways and ramps, as well as any other properties mutually agreed upon by the Colonel and the Secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation

- State Police will agree to provide minimum staffing levels as required by MassDOT throughout designated patrol areas, including a plan to ensure details for MassDOT's construction projects

- The Highway Division and State Police shall jointly develop an annual spending plan for the following fiscal year commensurate with costs necessary to provide a level of policing services on MassDOT properties

- In accordance with the State Police Internal Controls Plan, as developed by the MassDOT Audit Unit, MassDOT shall transfer on a monthly basis, funds as necessary to reimburse the State Police for costs incurred in policing the MassDOT properties

Effect on MassDOT Employees

- The final MOU with the State Police is anticipated to require MassDOT to provide facilities and related services as determined by the Secretary of MassDOT

- MassDOT currently has 12 employees in Weston and at the HOC Troop E barracks that will be directly impacted by this change:
  - 9 dispatchers
  - 3 administrative staff

- Additionally, a number of custodians, mechanics, and facilities maintenance personnel that work on Troop E assets are indirectly impacted by this change.

- MassDOT has met with bargaining unit representatives and is committed to minimizing the impact on affected employees caused by the changes associated with the abolition of Troop E, keeping them informed as to how their employment could be affected, and helping those employees find other jobs within MassDOT should the need for their current positions change as a result of the negotiation of the MOU on future service levels and legal and fiscal responsibilities

Questions and Discussion